

It is a pleasure to again write to you about Hofstra's successes and challenges. As I have said to you in the recent past, there is no greater pleasure for a college president than meeting with our alumni – you are truly the measure of our success. In my travels over the past year, as I've spoken to professionals, alumni, recruiters and faculty, I've heard about a certain "quality" that Hofstra students and alumni have. I certainly agree. In my experience, those who seek and obtain a Hofstra education are exceptionally connected to the world around them, boldly seeking new experiences and opportunities.

Hofstra provides those vibrant personalities with an opportunity to thrive. Our exceptional academic programs are, of course, paramount. But we also give our students something extra — the resources they need to explore the world around them, to gain hands-on experience, and to participate in business, the arts, government and education. The Hofstra experience includes access to state-of-the-art facilities, a year-round on-campus calendar of events and lectures, and opportunities for internships and experience, giving our students countless avenues to explore.

As I enter my third year as Hofstra University's president, I am delighted to lead initiatives that improve the quality of education and campus life, and that build on the resources we have. A Hofstra degree has always been valuable, and it is my administration's goal to enhance the value of that degree for Hofstra students as well as our 100,000-plus alumni.

This fall, Hofstra is taking unprecedented measures to implement cutting-edge technology in the classroom. Through the generosity of Amy and Horace Hagedorn, grants obtained by New York State Senate Deputy Majority Leader Dean Skelos and Senator Kemp Hannon, and University funds, Hagedorn Hall opened this fall. The new home of the School of Education and Allied Human Services, Hagedorn Hall is a wired (and wireless) workspace that instructs tomorrow's teachers using the latest technology. The classrooms are flexible spaces employing all forms of media and computer technology, including interactive whiteboard, computer driven instructor stations and VHS/CD/DVD presentation capabilities.

The use of technology does not mean, however, that we must forego an atmosphere that encourages relationships and interaction between students, faculty and alumni. Hofstra is committed to implementing technological advances in our classrooms and other facilities,

and several plans are underway to apply appropriate technology while retaining the reflective character of the campus.

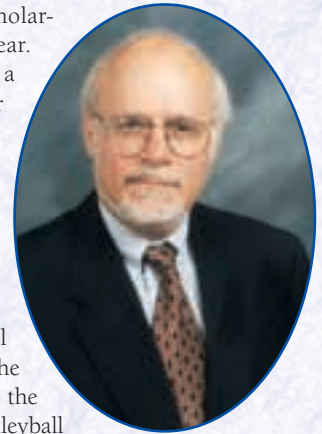
Hofstra also continues to ensure that our academic programs meet the highest standards, through accreditation whenever possible. This spring, the Department of Accounting received accreditation by AACSB International. While there are approximately 1,400 American institutions with degree programs in business, only 10 percent of business schools have accounting programs accredited by the AACSB. This accreditation represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide.

The total undergraduate experience, especially the transition students go through during freshman year, is an area my administration is studying. The work of the Task Force on Advisement, Admissions and the First Year Experience, co-chaired by Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Herman A. Berliner and Senior Vice President for Planning and Administration M. Patricia Adamski, continues, but the task force has already made several suggestions on how to better welcome and integrate incoming freshmen to the University community. One suggestion implemented this year was a Convocation, which was held on September 2, the first day of classes. This formal academic occasion featured faculty and administration, with all pomp and circumstance, and welcomed new scholars into the Hofstra community. To better prepare families for the difficulty of transition, our New Student Orientation now includes a Parents' Orientation, sponsored by Freshman Advancement, and during Kick-Off Weekend, several seminars were given for parents to help ease the transition to college. Kick-Off Weekend also featured a formal welcoming ceremony for freshmen in the Hofstra Arena.

The 2002-2003 athletic season was exciting for the Pride teams and our student athletes. Our wrestling and softball teams were both Colonial Athletic Association champions this year. Men's lacrosse received an at-large bid to the NCAA.

We had All-Americans in several sports and we are very proud of them, but I am especially pleased about the academic recognition members of these teams have received. At the NCAA championship, two wrestlers earned All-American honors, and the team was named to the National Wrestling Coaches Association All-Academic Top 25. Heather Brousseau, who was named to the Verizon-CoSIDA Division I Softball Academic All-American Team, was also

voted CAA's Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Arni Gunnarson, a standout soccer player, was named to the Verizon-CoSIDA Men's Soccer Academic All-American Team, and Stefanie Rewitz, who was the CAA's Volleyball Scholar-Athlete of the Year, was named to the Verizon-CoSIDA Volleyball Academic All-American Team.



With the completion of Hofstra Soccer Stadium, the Hofstra men's and women's soccer teams are playing on a new "pitch," adjacent to the Physical Fitness Center, this season. The 1,600-seat, lighted FieldTurf soccer field is one of the region's premier college facilities.

Our 2003 Gala Ball, held on May 29 at the Crest Hollow Country Club, was a resounding success, raising \$800,000 for the Hofstra Endowed Scholarship Fund to benefit student scholarships. We had as our honorees two distinguished and accomplished long-time Hofstra supporters and alumni, Trustee Emeritus Donald E. Axinn and Trustee Nelson DeMille, to whom I was pleased to present the Hofstra University Presidential Medal.

This fall, as always, the Hofstra campus has an enormous variety of cultural and academic offerings, including musical and artistic events, guest lecturers and conferences. One highlight is the 30th season of Gray Wig, Hofstra's Alumni Repertory Theater. Their summer season wrapped up with the staging of one of my favorite musicals, "Singin' in the Rain," featuring their extraordinary talents as well as real rain. Opening night, September 5, benefited Support Our Scholarships, Hofstra's scholarship fund.

If you once considered Hofstra your home, please stay involved. There is always something going on here at Hofstra. You, our alumni and friends, are always welcome. Thank you for your continued support of Hofstra.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stuart Rabinowitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "S" at the beginning.

Stuart Rabinowitz  
President